

Talking Points

Waymo Emergency Vehicle Testing - June 28, 2017

Chandler's Public Safety Messages

- Chandler's reputation as the innovation and technology hub of the southwest attracts a growing list of technology companies and entrepreneurs
- We believe in the public safety, mobility and economic benefits of this technology and we are honored to work with companies like Waymo as they advance self-driving cars
- Teaching self-driving cars how to respond when they detect emergency vehicles is an important part of operating vehicles safely
- During tonight's test, a variety of Police and Fire vehicles will interact with the Waymo vehicles in ordinary and unexpected ways
- These tests are one example of how Waymo is working with the City of Chandler to create a self-driving vehicle that can handle all parts of driving and make travel safer
- Advancements with this technology could reduce human error and other factors that lead to crashes
- Vehicles that shoulder the entire burden of driving also could provide public health benefits by offering mobility for seniors and people with disabilities who can't travel on their own

Testing in Chandler

- Waymo's testing in Chandler began in 2016 and has expanded to other parts of the Phoenix metro area, making it the fourth location in the U.S. to host a testing program.
- The testing process began with creating detailed maps of streets — things like lane markers, traffic signals, curb heights, "keep clear" zones, and other information that helps the car understand exactly where it is in the world.
- The cars can operate autonomously (with a test driver onboard and able to take over at any time). Even with a test driver present, the car processes information faster than a human could with a 360-degree view all the time and sensors that detect motion.

- The City of Chandler is coordinating with Waymo's test drivers and engineers to assist with the project. Waymo also launched its early rider program in Chandler and has expanded its first in the nation public trial of self-driving cars to cities in the East Valley.